

Claims

- [c1] A meat cut classification system for determining the thickness of a layer of fat comprising:
- a rail extending parallel to a conveyor said rail having a trolley mechanism operable to translate along said rail and said trolley having a probe extending vertically upward from said trolley;
 - a cam follower mechanism operatively attached between said trolley and a trolley roller chain where said roller chain has at least one sprocketed pulley axially attached to a drive shaft where said drive shaft is operatively connected to a conveyor drive by a clutch assembly where said clutch is operable to selectively transfer drive from the conveyor drive to the drive shaft for causing translation of said trolley along said rail; and
 - said probe assembly having a cylinder adapted to elevate a probe upward transverse the direction of conveyance for probing a meat cut.
- [c2] The meat cut classification system as recited in claim 1 where said probe further comprises:
- a pointed end of the probe sufficiently pointed to penetrate a meat cut;

a signal emitter housed interior the probe and adjacent a window of the probe and operable to emit a signal through said window to a surrounding area exterior the probe; and

a signal receiver housed interior the probe and adjacent the window and operable to receive a signal reflected back through the window and transmit a control signal representative of the reflected signal to a controller.